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ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, November 19, 1981 -- Orders for new freight cars in October totaled 1,013, compared with 1,743 in September and 2,047 in October 1980, the Association of American Railroads and the American Railway Car Institute reported today.

Orders for new and rebuilt cars through the first 10 months of the year came to 16,390, compared with 37,236 for the same period a year ago.

A total of 3,015 new and rebuilt cars were placed in service in October, compared with 3,613 in September and 7,389 in October 1980. Deliveries for the first 10 months of 1981 totaled 41,085, compared with 76,668 a year ago.

As of November 1, a total of 18,969 cars were on order and undelivered, the lowest backlog since 18,750 cars were on order and undelivered as of September 1, 1972. The backlog on October 1 was 22,105 cars and on November 1, 1980, it was 57,963.

Meanwhile, the AAR reported that major American railroads added 55 new and rebuilt diesel locomotives to their fleet in October, compared with 47 in September and 101 in October 1980.

As of November 1, taking retirements into account, the fleet of owned and leased diesel locomotives totaled 27,772, compared with 27,846 on October 1 and 28,641 on November 1, 1980.

The backlog of locomotives on order and undelivered as of November 1 was 184, compared with 228 on October 1 and 496 on November 1 of last year.

(more)

FREIGHT CARS AND LOCOMOTIVES ORDERED AND DELIVERED

AND BACKLOG OF ORDERS

ALL RAILROADS AND PRIVATE CAR LINES

DELIVERED

	October		September	Ten Months	
	1981	1980	1981	1981	1980
Built New by Car Builders	2,656	6,956	3,299	37,137	70,712
Built New in R.R. Shops	244	412	230	2,986	4,813
Built New - Total	2,900	7,368	3,529	40,123	75,525
Rebuilt	115	21	84	962	1,143
TOTAL DELIVERED	3,015	7,389	3,613	41,085	76,668
Locomotives	55	101	47	610	1,489

ORDERED

To be built New by Car Builders	638	1,847	1,743	14,662	33,058
To be built New in R.R. Shops	375	200	0	628	3,115
To be built New - Total	1,013	2,047	1,743	15,290	36,173
To be rebuilt	0	0	0	1,100	1,063
TOTAL ORDERED	1,013	2,047	1,743	16,390	37,236

ON ORDER AND UNDELIVERED

	November 1		October 1	Average	
	1981	1980	1981	1981	1980
To be built New by Car Builders	16,685	53,389	19,837	30,377	78,923
To be built New in R.R. Shops	2,146	4,554	2,015	2,882	5,486
To be built New - Total	18,831	57,943	21,852	33,259	84,409
To be rebuilt	138	20	253	292	290
TOTAL ON ORDER	18,969*	57,963	22,105	33,551	84,699
Locomotives	184	496	228	322	870

* Due to revisions and cancellations of some orders, the November 1, 1981 backlog has been reduced by 1,134 cars.

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